

City of Fort Smith, Arkansas
Minutes of the Streets, Bridges and Associated Drainage
Capital Improvements Plan (CIP) Advisory Committee Meeting
September 24, 2015

A meeting of the Streets, Bridges and Associated Drainage Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) Advisory Committee was called to order at 12:03 p.m. on September 24, 2015, at the River Park Events Building West by Aaron St. Amant (Chairman).

Committee members present:

Aaron St. Amant – Ward 3 (Chairman)
Stan Vlademar – Ward 1
Tyler Lamon – Ward 2
Tiffinee Baker – Ward 2
Robert Brown – Ward 3

Committee members absent:

David Armbruster – Ward 4
Philip Rosar – Ward 4

City Staff Present:

Jeff Dingman, Acting City Administrator
Stan Snodgrass, Director of Engineering
Greg Riley, Director of Operations
Matt Meeker, Senior Project Engineer
Brian Waldrip, Senior Project Engineer
Sonya Elliott, Administrative Coordinator
Jennifer Stevens, Accounting Technician

Minutes of the August 20, 2015 Meeting

Robert Brown made the motion to approve the minutes and Tiffinee Baker seconded. The minutes were unanimously approved.

5-Year CIP Plan (2016-2020)

The Chairman made some opening comments and explained the purpose of the meeting. The purpose of the meeting was to discuss and approve the 5-Year Capital Improvements Plan for city projects. Stan Snodgrass provided an overview of the proposed 5-year CIP which had been previously provided to the committee on September 18.

Stan Vlademar wanted to know if there was a priority list for deciding projects. Stan Snodgrass explained how streets were determined for the five year CIP plan. Robert Brown wanted to know more about the intersection changes on the Jenny Lind Rd. widening project and if we could possibly keep the intersections as they are now and not extend Ingersoll east to Hwy. 71. Stan Snodgrass explained that the design phase for Jenny Lind had been completed and we were nearing the construction phase. He explained how we have already acquired the right of way and have been reimbursed federal money and it would be difficult to reimburse that back to the State. Stan Vlademar spoke up about being in favor of the new intersection changes that will be done for the Jenny Lind project. He said it would really help out anyone who drove that route frequently.

Stan Vlademar questioned the appropriation of funds for the South 46th Street Drainage project since it was listed in the 2016-2020 plan. Stan Snodgrass explained how the 5 year CIP plan worked and that the monies for the South 46th Street Drainage project were appropriated in a previous 5 year CIP work plan which was approved by the Board of Directors.

Robert Brown asked about the percentage of the engineering fees noted in the CIP. Stan Snodgrass referred to Item #20 which costs include not only the City's engineering & inspection fees, but also includes costs for numerous other City departments which provide support for the CIP.

Director Pennartz asked the Chairman (Aaron St. Amant) what the percentage breakdown and dollar breakdown was for existing streets being resurfaced. Stan Snodgrass commented it was around 21% and \$7 million. Director Pennartz also wanted to know the miles of streets that were resurfaced as well. Stan Snodgrass said 5.2 miles are planned for 2016. Director Pennartz asked that the street overlay mileage for the last 5 years of the CIP be sent to her. (This information was sent by Jeff Dingman on 9/24/15). Director Pennartz thanked Stan Snodgrass and Aaron St. Amant (Chairman).

Stan Vlademar wanted to know how money was dedicated for Traffic Signal Improvements. Stan Snodgrass explained that money for traffic signals came out of the Street Sales Tax fund.

Robert Brown questioned their capacity as committee members. Stan Snodgrass read the ordinance for the Streets, Bridges and Associated Drainage Capital Improvements Plan (CIP) Advisory Committee Meeting. Jeff Dingman explained the committee member's capacity and that it is a unique situation this year with the time frame that has been given. He told them 2016 would allow more time to have input from the committee and to let the Engineering Department know about possible streets to look at and plan for in the future CIP work plan.

Stan Vlademar made a motion for approval of the 5 year CIP work plan. Tyler Lamon seconded the motion. Roll call resulted in 4 members in favor and 1 abstention (Brown). The 5 year CIP work plan was approved.

Other Business

Stan Vlademar wanted to know if there were any plans in the future to widen South 66th Street off of Phoenix Ave. Stan Snodgrass explained there were no current plans for widening of South 66th Street in this area. Stan Vlademar said that he would relay that information to the citizen which questioned it.

Aaron St. Amant has a friend in Boston/Carthage area with a flooding home. He stated they used sand bags to control the flooding. Stan Snodgrass advised that this home (2116 Boston) was part of a current project 15-06-B. Mr. Snodgrass stated that easement letters for this project were just sent out to the property owners in order to acquire easements.

Stan Snodgrass asked the committee members when they would like to meet next. Stan Vlademar suggested once a quarter or the Engineering Dept. staff or Chairman could call a special meeting. Stan Vlademar made a motion for approval of quarterly meetings. Tyler Lamon seconded the motion. Roll call resulted in 5 members in favor and 0 opposed. The next quarterly meeting will be scheduled for January 2016.

Tyler Lamon wanted to know if they could solicit public opinion from citizens. Jeff Dingman suggested getting public input at the quarterly Ward Public Meetings along with City representatives and having citizens tell the committee members suggestions.

Citizen's Forum

No comments

Next meeting date will be in January 2016. Day, time and place to be determined at a later date.

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 1:11 p.m.